

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

March 19, 2013

The Jasper County Council met this date at 7:00 P.M. C.S.T. in the Commissioners' Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Ronald G. Sipkema, H. Dan Stalbaum, Gerrit H. DeVries, Rein O. Bontreger, John T. Price, Stephen R. Jordan and Andrew Andree. Also present was the Auditor of Jasper County, Kimberly K. Grow and Deputy Auditor, Donna Horner. Mr. Sipkema called the meeting to order and those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. DeVries.

MINUTES: Mr. Stalbaum made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 19, 2013 with the correction of adding his name to the committee to discuss the morgue project. Mr. DeVries seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION / COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / PROJECT INCOME: Community Corrections Director Mr. Wakeland requested \$2,740.00 for Professional Contract and Addiction Counseling Treatment. The Jasper County Drug Free Organization has awarded this amount to Community Corrections to help offset the cost of having a member of Ryan and Ryan Consulting Staff conduct an in-house support group. This money needs to be appropriated in order to pay for this service. Mr. Bontreger made a motion to approve this request within **Additional Appropriation Ordinance No. 2013-03A**. Mr. Jordan seconded and this motion carried unanimously.

JASPER COUNTY SHERIFF/OFFICERS' RETIREMENT FUND: Sheriff Risner had a discussion with the council concerning the Deferred Retirement Option Program for his officers. Mr. Calloway of Calloway Painter Consulting Group who manages the sheriff's pension fund for the county would like to meet with two council members and a commissioner to discuss this option. Councilman Andree and Councilman Stalbaum volunteered to meet with Mr. Calloway.

JASPER COUNTY SHERIFF/2ND DRUG INTERDICTION OFFICER: Sheriff Risner requested his salary be moved back to the County General Fund from the Public Safety Fund so there would be enough money in this fund to support the second drug interdiction officer. The council agreed they would support anything the commissioners decided.

TAX ABATEMENT REQUEST/REMINGTON SEEDS/PUBLIC HEARING: Attorney Donald Shelmon and Plan Manager Mark Salisbury were present to represent Remington Seeds in their request. The company is building a new seed corn conditioning and treatment plant. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$13,250,000.00 (the cost of building is \$6,450,000.00 and the cost of equipment is \$6,800,000.00). Currently there are thirty full time employees. During harvest time they have an additional one hundred ten to one hundred fifteen part time employees and during detasseling season there are between four hundred fifty and five hundred part time employees. There was no public comment. After a lengthy discussion concerning abatements a motion was made by Mr. Price to approve the Remington Seeds, LLC. Preliminary Tax Abatement Resolution. This motion was seconded by Mr. Bontreger. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: Councilman DeVries made the statement that Robert Monfort, Council Attorney and Kevin Kelly, Jasper County Economic Development President needed to work together to create a tax abatement package for the Jasper County Council and the Jasper County Economic Revitalization Area Panel to work from.

Attorney Monfort then updated the council on the three items he has been asked to work on.

Innkeeper's Tax-St. Joseph College is mandated to collect and pay this tax.

Airport Authority Board-He is drafting an ordinance to change this board from four members to a five member board.

He will work with Kevin Kelly to create a Jasper County Tax Abatement Package.

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Auditor Grow spoke to the council concerning penalties if the Innkeeper’s Tax isn’t paid on time. Councilman Price made a motion to set the penalty for nonpayment or late payment at five percent of the tax with a ten day grace period and Mr. Bontreger seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Attorney Monfort will amend the original ordinance.

Mr. Andree made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Mr. Stalbaum seconding the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Ronald G. Sipkema, President

Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County

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